Bauxite Reserves in Gujarat

1274. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted/undertaken to study the quantum of bauxite available in various districts particularly in Porbandar, Kachh and Palan Pur area of Gujarat;

(b) the estimated reserves of bauxite in the areas; and

(c) the measures contemplated to set up alumina factories utilising bauxite reserves in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated reserves of bauxite deposite district-wise are as follows:—

(in million tonne)

District	Name of Areas	Total Reserve
Jamnagar	Kalyanpur area	19.47
Kachh	About 270 deposits/ individual prospects	29.0
Kheda	4 small areas	1.25
Junagarh	Porbandar-Veraval	28.0
Banaskanta	Palanpur	Nil

(c) The Central Govt. has no proposal to set up any public Sector Refinery for making Alumina based upon the available Bauxite reserves in Gujarat. However, in recent past, the Govt. of India has given approval to M/s. Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd. to set up a new 100% EOU Alumina Plant based on the Bauxite reserves from Kachh and Saurashtra districts.

Production of Fruits and Vegetables in India

1275. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the largest producer of fruits and second largest producer of vegetables in the World, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 21.11.95;

(b) whether at present India is suffering from a loss of 20-30 per cent per year in horticulture production owing to lack of facilities for storage, infrastructure and food processing; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to minimise such losses alongwith expenditure out of the allocation of funds made for the development of horticulture plan-wise and State-wise particularly during the Eighth Five Year Plan and if the expenditure incurred is less, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir, as per FAO production year book 1993.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per report of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan than titled "Perishable Agricultural Commodities (1981)", post harvest losses in fruits and vegetables is upto 25-40% due to inadequate and unscientific handling of fruits and vegetables.

(c) During 8th Plan, Rs. 109.85 crores has been earmarked to National Horticulture Board to undertake steps to minimise post harvest losses of perishable horticulture produce. The Board has launched four schemes in this regard.

During previous plans periods no separate allocations were made for post harvest infrastructure facilities. During 8th plan period State-wise allocations have not been made. The details of expenditure incurred under four NHB schemes is enclosed in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 33] The